

R U L E S

OF THE

HALIFAX MECHANICS' INSTITUTE,

AS REVISED AND

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY,

AT A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

HELD FOR THAT PURPOSE,

At the Lecture Room, Dalhousie College,

September 19, 1849.

HALIFAX:

A. J. RITCHIE, PRINTER.

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R U L E S .

OBJECTS.

1. **THE** Objects of the Halifax Mechanics' Institute shall be, the cultivation and diffusion of knowledge, in the Arts, Sciences, and General Literature,—and the collection of models, drafts, specimens, books of reference, and other materials, tending to instruction and improvement.

MEMBERSHIP.

2. Membership of the Institute shall consist of subscription and conformity to its Rules,—payment of Ten Shillings entrance fee, and Five Shillings annually, for receipt of which Tickets shall be given;—also the possession of an Honorary Member's Ticket, by vote of the Institute,—and of a Perpetual Member's Ticket,—by donation, as elsewhere provided—shall constitute regular Membership.

3. Members shall be deemed the vested proprietors of the Museum, and other property of the Institute,—for Institute purposes,—and shall have the government of the Institute, as office bearers and voters at General Meetings.

4. Each Member shall have the privilege of holding Session Tickets for one lady and two minors, on paying Six Shillings and Three Pence for such Tickets. The term minors shall apply to apprentices, during apprenticeship,—and to others not above fourteen years of age.

5. Persons may forfeit the privilege of Membership, by vote of expulsion, for non-compliance with the rules, or for disorderly conduct : the non-payment of annual fee for two years in succession, shall constitute an act of non-compli-

ance, which may be visited with expulsion, provided previous written notice be given to the non-complying Member.

6. Annual and other fees of the Institute shall be paid, before the right of voting at General Meetings can be exercised, or eligibility to Office be possessed.

7. Persons may be elected Honorary Members of the Institute, in consideration of services performed, or as a mark of respect for high character or attainments; such Members to be free from the usual pecuniary charges of the Institute: the mode of election shall be nomination and approval by Committee,—recommendation from Committee to a General Meeting,—and vote of such General Meeting.

8. Persons may become Perpetual or Life Members, by a Donation of Five Pounds;—such Members to be free from the usual fees of the Institute.

9. Members shall have the privilege of introducing to the Lecture Room, non-residents of Halifax, on each evening of Lecture.

OFFICERS.

10. The Office-bearers of the Institute shall be, a President, two Vice Presidents,—Treasurer, Secretary, Curator, and Committee of nine persons,—who shall be chosen annually, by nomination and ballot, or unanimous vote. The General Committee shall consist of the fifteen Office-bearers,—eight of whom shall form a quorum for transaction of business.

11. The duty of the Secretary shall be to keep the records of the Institute, and perform such other business of his office, as shall be directed by the Managing Committee.—The Secretary shall receive a yearly sum of not more than Fifteen Pounds, which shall include usual expenses for Stationery and Committee Summonses.

12. The duty of the Curator shall be to keep the Museum and Lecture Room in good order, to keep a list of the articles in each room, and to attend to such other duties of his

office, as shall be directed by the Committee. The Curator shall be allowed such sum as the Committee shall determine for an assistant in those duties, or for appropriation as he shall see fit: this sum to include the pay of Doorkeepers of the Lecture Room.

13. The Curator may provide models or plans for Lecturers, which shall be paid for from the funds of the Institute; such expenditure not to exceed one pound for any one Lecture, unless a greater sum be sanctioned by vote of the Committee. Articles so provided shall be the property of the Institute.

MEETINGS.

14. The Institute shall meet one evening in each week, during Sessions, for the hearing of Lectures: the chair to be taken at a quarter past eight o'clock.

15. At the conclusion of each Lecture, questions may be asked, or additional information imparted, by conversation or otherwise, respecting the subject of the evening. The conversations, in which strangers present shall be permitted to join, to be a means, not of introducing criticisms on Lectures, but of further developing subjects or topics in a familiar and amicable way. Persons delivering their views or opinions to the Institute, except while lecturing, shall address the chairman. Lecture meetings shall terminate at, or about, ten o'clock.

16. At the conclusion of conversations on Lectures, other matters relative to the Institute may be introduced, by written proposition,—such matters not to be put to vote before the next weekly or other general meeting of the Institute.

17. A general meeting, for election of office bearers, shall be held one month previous to the conclusion of each Session,—the office bearers then elected shall not enter on the duties of their offices until the concluding evening of the Session,—when they shall be announced by the chairman

of the evening, who shall then vacate the chair in favor of the chairman elect,—except re-election prevent this arrangement.

18. The General Committee shall meet once in each month, or more frequently, if necessary, as a Committee of Management; they shall have the superintendence of all Institute matters, which do not require reference to a general meeting of members.

LECTURES, &c.

19. The Committee shall provide for the delivery of Lectures, weekly, during each Session,—and may establish Educational Classes, and offer prizes for Essays, Models, &c.

20. The Committee may provide for the payment of Lecturers occasionally; no Lecture to be paid for, except a proposition to that effect be made previously, at a regular Committee Meeting, and be there adopted.

ORDER.

21. Discussions on party or domestic politics, and on controverted religious topics, shall be prohibited.

22. The Chairman shall have authority to preserve order, by reproof, or reference to the Committee, or expulsion from the room;—the Committee may exclude disorderly persons from membership and its privileges.

TICKETS.

23. Beside Tickets of Membership,—Session Tickets, for persons not members, shall be issued, at the following prices: Gentlemen's Seven Shillings and Six Pence, Ladies' Five Shillings,—Minor's Five Shillings.

26. The Committee shall have power to issue Tickets of Admission to Single Lectures, at One Shilling and Three

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Pence each Ticket, when suitable lecture room, or other circumstances warrant such issue.

27. Each Lecturer may issue not more than twelve Tickets of Admission for the evening of his Lecture.

LEGISLATURE.

28. Admission to Lectures of the Institute shall be free to the Members of the Legislature.

RULES.

29. None of the foregoing Rules shall be altered, set aside, or annulled, unless with the approbation of a majority of the Members present at a General Meeting, duly called for the purpose.